NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1873.-TRIPLE SHEET.

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THE AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN. STATUS OF THE VIRGINIUS. WHERE THE INVESTIGATION IS TO TAKE PLACE-IM-MUNITY OF THE NOMINAL OWNER.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.-It has been ascertained from a preminent Government officer that the investigation as to the character of the Virginius will be conducted in New-York.

The Government is powerless to proceed against Patterson, to whom the register for that vessel was ssued, on account of the statute of limitations; therefore no punishment can be inflicted, two years having elapsed since he obtained the papers. Had all the facts been known within two years he would have been prosecuted for perjury.

COMMENTS OF THE HAVANA PRESS-DAMAGES CLAIMED FROM THE UNITED STATES.

HAVANA, Dec. 23 .- The Diario de la Marina today claims that as the United States Attorney-General has decided that the Virginius illegally earried the American flag at the time of her capture, Spain must demand her restoration and that of her surviving prisoners. It infers from the decision that the Virginius was a pirate, and the United States Government besides restoration must give Spain satisfaction adequate to the offense of requiring a surrender. The Diario demands that the same vessel which received the Virginius at Bahia Honda return her there, and that the Juniata bring the prisoners back to Santiago, because the Virginius was the legal prize of the Tornado, and the prisoners can and should be tried only by Spanish tribunals. Spain is advised to be element with them, and not to employ the full force of the law. The Diario concludes with the hope that Gen. Sickles will not withdraw his resignation.

The Vor de Cuba declares Spain now has the right to demand satisfaction from the United States, and the resignation of Gen. Sickles is imperative in view of the awkward and ridiculous position in which he is placed. In order to enforce her demands Spain requires a more energetic Minister at Washington than Admiral Polo.

The Diario in another article bitterly complains of the Home Government. It says: "No Spanish nation exists to-day. The nation is represented only by egotistical parties. There is no war ery. Therefore our traditional enemies put their feet on our necks. Had Spain been united the Washington protocol would never have been ratified. The nation would never have permitted the shadow of such an

AN ENGLISH OPINION OF SPAIN'S DEMAND OF THE RETURN OF THE VESSEL.

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873. The Times of this morning, alluding to the report that Spain has made a demand upon the United States for the restoration of the steamship Virginius and the survivors surrendered at Santiago de Cuba, gays that such action on the part of Spain would be premature, despite the opinion of the Attorneytioneral of the United States that the Virginius had no right to carry the American flag. Spain must wait until a United States Court has settled the case of the vessel before proceeding further in the

POSITION OF GREAT BRITAIN. NO CONCENTRATION OF BRITISH VESSELS IN CUBAN

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1875. There is no truth in the report that the British war-ships in the West Indies have been ordered to essemble in Cuban waters. BRITISH MEN-OF-WAR ORDERED TO HAVANA.

HALIYAN, N. S., Dec. 23 .- A rumor is current here to day that the flagship Royal Affred and six other British men-of-war have been ordered to proceed from Bermuda to Havana to await the result of the demand of the British Government for the punishment of Gen. Burriel for executing the English subjects among the Virginius captives.

THE MONITOR DICTATOR.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE GREAT WAR SHIP-LIST OF

THE OFFICERS. The United States iron-clad Dictator, which serived from New-London a short time ago, is now in the Eric Basin dry dock at South Brooklyn, undergoin, repairs, but will probably be ready for sea to-morrow afternoon. The impression has generally prevailed, and insieed statements have been published to the effect that se dry dock in the vicinity of New-York was sufficiently large to receive this great monitor. The large dry dock at the Brooklyn Navy-Yard is only about 350 feet in length. The dock in which the Dictator is repairing is 485 deet in length by 115 in width, and has ample accommodutions for the formidable vessel. The Dictator, it will be remembered was built during the last year of the war and reached the sea at the same time with the Monad ne k, in 1865. She was prevented from participating in one or two of the latest naval engagements only by ar security to her machinery, and has never seen actual oth and thence to Portland, in 1866, she showe excellent speed though she suffered defeat. She subse quently made a cruise to the West Indies, and afterward remained at Key West for severa years. Two or three years ago she was brought to New-London, and has remained there since her arrival. She was put into the Eric Basin dry-dock on Priday last. Her hull was found to be completely covered with a thick coating of mussels, and several tons have already been removed. A large force of men were employed on the ship throughout the day on Satur day, and yesterday nearly 200 workmen were engaged is painting the hull and repairing the machinery The Dictator is \$12 feet in length se feet breadth of beam, and 21 feet depth of hold. is rated at 1,750 tons. The Dictator's weight is about 5,550 tons. Her surface is covered with six iron plates, each one inch in thickness. Directly beneath this cover ing are heavy white oak stringers, nearly one foot in thickness, and behind these the solid oak of the hull, which is about four feet thick. The iron plates of the deck are several inches thick, and are as sould to the tread as a Broadway pavement. The single turret which rises above the deck is formed of iron 16 inches it thickness, and conceals two heavy guns nearly 20 feet in length, and with a 15-inch bore. Above this rises the pilot-house, which is about 16 feet in diameter, and of the same thickness as the lower portion of the turret. The Dictator is propelled by an enormous screw, 21 feet 55 diameter, with four blades, which drives her through the water at the rate of 10 knots an The vessel draws 20 feet 8 inches of The Dictator is the largest monitor in active service in the American navy, with the exception Puritan, which is of 1,870 tons. The Roanoke which is not properly a monitor, is nearly 1,000 tons barger, and, with its three turrets, mounts six 15-inch guns. It is asserted by officers of the Navy-Yard that the Dictator would prove a formidable foe to the strongest iron-clads of any nation. The list of officers as far as

spleted is as follows: James E. Jouett, Commander; H. F. Picking, Lieu-enapt-Commander and Executive Officer; B. P. Lam-serton, Lieutenaut-Commander; J. G. Eaton, Lieu-tenant; C. H. Stockton, Lieutenaut; H. T. Monahan, Master; Edmund Olson, First Assistant Engineer; R. T. Bennett, First Assistant Engineer; A. B. Bates, Second Assistant Engineer; M. P. Cushing, Paymaster; and A. 6. Oberly, Surgeon.

OTHER NAVAL INTELLIGENCE. GEDERS IN REGARD TO EXTRA WORK AT NAVY-YARDS

(BY TRLEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) . WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.-It turns out to be mistake that the Secretary of the Navy has ordered all extra work to cease at the Navy-Yards. The order is that extra hours of work shall cease, that is that there shall not be, for the present, any more night or Sunda work; but the war-preparations are by no means to

THE BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD. A statement in the morning newspapers that the Navy Department had ordered a suspension of all extra work caused much dismay among the workmen of the Brooklyn Navy-Yard yesterday. Fears bowever, when it was ascertained that the order referred only to night and Sunday labor, and

ement was but a repetition of what had

been decided that the Minnesota will not go into commission, and accordingly Lieut. son, who had been designated as Executive Officer of the vessel, has been relieved and ordered to the Dictator. The other officers of the Minnesota, all of whom had reported for duty, have been detached therefrom and placed on waitinglorders. Nearly 1,500 scamen are now on board the receiving ship Vermont,242 addition al, recruits thaving tjust arrived from New-Orleans. The marines in the Flushing-ave, barracks were last evening the recipients of a Christmas entertainment tendered them in the chapel. The exercises included the reading of Dickens's "Christmas Carol." This evening a Christmas service, according to the Episcopal form, will be held in the same place.

THE KEY WEST STATION-THE WYOMING TO BRING THE GEN. SHERMAN INTO AN AMERICAN FORT. IRY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 .- The following has

een received from a special correspondent: KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 23.-The Powhatan has sailed for Norfolk. A draft of machinists has arrived from New-Orleans for the Government repair shops. The Wyoming has sailed for Aspinwall, to bring into an American port the steamer Gen. Sherman, captured by the same vessel in October for illegally flying the flag of the United States, and making hostile demonstrations against the Honduras Government, with which the Government of the United States is at peace. The Gen Sherman has been at Aspinwall in charge of Midship men Mentz and Calkins. The Wyoming will return with her to Key West as soon as possible.

NAVAL ASSIGNMENTS.

·Washington, Dec. 23.—Commander R. E. Wallace is ordered to duty as Inspector of Ordnance at the Norfolk Navy-Yard. Capt. S. B. Luce is detatched from the command of the Minnesota and ordered to resum duties at the Boston Navy-Yard. Lieut.-Commander John C. Kennett is detached from the Alaska and placed on waiting orders. Lieut.-Commander H. B. Robeson is detached from the Minnesota and rdered to the iron-clad Dictator as executive officer. Lieuts, A. N. Wadhams and C. H. Stockton are detached from the Dictator and ordered to Newport. R. I., for instruction in torpedo service. Lieuts. Charles M. Thomas and F. J. Drake are detached from the Terror and ordered to Newport, R. L., for instruction in torpedo ser Lieuts. R. M. Berry, Uriel Sobree, and F. P. Gilnere are detached from the Minnesota and ordered to ore are detached from the Ainnesota and gracefed to e iron-clad Dictator. Licut.-Commander G. F. F. Ide, and Roatswain Ansol Keene are detached from Minucsota and ordered to resume their duties at the ston Navy-Yard. Mesicers J. M. Hawley and Schaef-are detached from the Minucsota and ordered to the ceiving ship Vernont at New-York. Licut. A. B. H. Ile. Chaplain J. J. Kane, and Carpenter S. N. White-use are detached from the Minnesota and placed on sting orders.

THE WANDERING PRINCE.

GENET NOT YET ARRESTED. HE IS TRACED TO PELHAM BAY, THE THREE BROTHERS.

AND WHITESTONE - THE SHERIFF'S OFFICERS CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL RECAPTURE HIM. The several deputy sheriffs, among whom were Mesers. Shields and Currey, who were scouring the nty, Westchester, and Long Island on Monday in search f Harry Genet, ascertained that he was seen to cross Harlem Bridge in company with a friend of his names Dunnigan. By diligent inquiry the officers learned that after crossing the bridge they hired a light wagon and were driven rapidly by way of Pelham Bridge to Pelham Bay. In tracking them along this route, the efficers heard of them frequently from farmers who had seen them pass, their attention having been attracted men by the great speed at which they were driving. On reaching Pelham Bay, the Sheriffs learned that, as soon as Genet and his friend arrived there they engaged a small boat to convey them to the islands known as The Three Brothers, in the vicinity of the mouth of Little Neck Bay. It was so rate in the day when the officers obtained this ones of reaching these islands last night; but they They found that Genet had spont only a short time at The Three Brothers, and had gone thence to Wniteston where, at the house of a friend named Anthony Miller, he quietly passed the remainder of the day. Miller was Alderman from the VIIIth District in 1868 and 1869. Whether Dunnigan accompanied his friend farther than The Three Brothers, they were unable to ascertain Genet left Whitestone for a point further out in Long Island some time during Monday night, or very early yesterday morning. The sheriffs claim to know his destination, and express confidence that they will have him in custody before noon to-day.

According to another version of the escape Genet, left his house on the impulse of the moment, crossed Harlem Bridge alone, and hastening to Pelham, hired a small pont: and it was thought that he was either still on the Sound or close at hand on Long Island. He was so we known that he could not have escaped by the railroads eading through Westchester County, although few per sons would have recognized him had he taken a train o the Long Island Railroad.

Nothing could be learned in the Sheriff's office yester tay relative to the fugitive Genet further than that search for him was being presecuted with the fullest energy. Sheriff Brennan declined to give further informa tion, and from his manner it might be inferred that he would soon have Genetagain.

At 4 p. m. a Tribune reporter visited Mr. Brennan for

he second time. Early in the day he had spoken hopefully, but now in reply to the reporter's query, "Any news about Genet!" he said, smilingly, that he had not neard from the deputies. The conversation then went

" Have you reason to believe that the deputies have got on his track ! "

" I am sure of it."

"Do you think be has got away to Cauada 1" " I do not; I believe he is not very far away from the

"Are Pinkerton's men working in conjunction with "Oh, no; I guess they are after the reward; but I

think my men will forestall them." "If Genet is arrested to-night, what disposition will

he made of him ? " 'I have given orders that he be ledged in the nearest olice station, and the fact be communicated to me."

The Sheriff then took his carriage for his home. The

Sheriff's office were the same subdued air as on Monday. Deputies did not seem to be very busy, for they sat in twos and threes and talked with bated breath. It was vident that every man of them felt a certain degree o humiliation in the escape of Genet. While canvassing the means of flight, not a few were heard to say, in opposition to the suspicion that Genet is yet in the State, that when he left the house at 21 o'clock on Monday morning-disguised, of course-he went to Hunter' Point, and by arrangement took passage on the 5 a. m.

freight train of the Long Island Railroad to Greenpoint Thence he crossed over to Providence and went on through Maine to Canada.

In the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday, Judge Daniels announced to the District Attorney that he had concluded to deny the motion to quash the indictment against Henry W. Genet for forgery. John E. Burrill appeared in the Court as counsel for Sheriff Brennan in answer to the order to show cause why the Sheriff should not be punished for contempt of Court, in not obeying the order to commit Henry W. Genet to the City Prison. As the counsel was not ready to proceed and as the Sheriff hopes to recapture his prisoner, the case was adjourned until to-morrow.

DEATH OF MRS. ALEXANDER AGASSIZ. ISY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

CAMBRIDGE, Dec. 23 .- The family of the late Prof. Agassiz is again stricken with sorrow, which falls with especial severity on his only son. It is not a week since the crape was removed from the door, and thi morning it was replaced in memory of Mrs. Alexande Agassiz, who died last night from pneumonia, She had been unceasing in her attentions on the Professor during his illness, doing all she could to relieve her afflicted mother-in-law. It is supposed that on the night of his seath, in the excitement that ensued, she incautiously exposed herself, and took cold, which settled on the ungs, and caused speedy death. Mrs. Agassiz leaves four children, the eldest under 12. This sad event ha

cast a great gloom over the community. IGENERAL PRESS DISPATCH. The wife of Alexander Agassiz, son of the late Prof. Agassiz, died last night of pneumonia, superinduced by fatigue in her sympathetic attendance upon her father in-law during his illness. Mrs. Agassiz was the daugh ter of the late G. R. Russell, and grand-daughter of the late Robert G. Shaw of Boston. She was a lady of remarkable worth and culture, and her genial preses will be missed from a wide social and literary circle.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR WILLIAM. W THE RUMORS OF HIS ILLNESS AFFECT THE PROPLE OF BERLIN-HE IS SAID TO BE COMPARA-

TIVELY WELL. LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 24-5 a. m. A special dispatch from Berlin to The London Times says that in consequence of the alarming rumors in regard to the health of the Emperor William, an suxious crowd filled the square opposite the Royal Palace last night.

The people were assured from the balcony that the Emperor was comparatively well, although confined to

his room; but they refused to disperse. The Standard reports that rumors were persistently circulated yesterday of the Emperor's death. They are indoubtedly false; but it is certain that His Majesty is

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

MORE TROUBLES LIKELY TO ARISE. LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873. The Daily News reports that the hostile tone of recent pastorals issued by French bishops has caused the German Government to renew its complaints to

FRANCE AND ITALY.

RESUMPTION OF CORDIAL RELATIONS PROPOSED. Paris, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873. Chevalier Nigra, the Italian Minister, had an interview with President MacMahon to-day, and proposed the resumption of cordial relations between France and Italy.

THE BOWLES BANKRUPTCY CASE. AN ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE-PLANS OF THE CEED-

ITORS. LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873. The Bowles Brothers & Co, bankruptcy

ase has been adjourned sine die. The creditors of the firm are in favor of the funding project. FRENCH PEACE SOCIETY'S BANQUET.

Paris, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873.

The French Peace Society gave a banquet ast night in honor of its Secretary, M. Richard, who has just returned from a mission to Italy. A number of Americans and Englishmen were among the guests, and toasts to the United States and Great Britain were

REPORTED DEATH OF HENRY ROCHEFORT. PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1878. It is reported that Henry Rochefort has died at the penal settlement in New-Caledonia.

FINANCES OF CUBA. HAVANA, Dec. 23 .- The Junta, the Intendente, and the leading merchants continue to deliberate on plans for the solution of the financial crisis, but the result is as far off as ever.

THE SANTO DOMINGO REVOLUTION. ITS PRESENT CONDITION-THE PROVISIONAL GOV

ERNMENT WILL RESPECT THE AGREEMENT WITH THE SAMANA BAY COMPANY. The report that reached this city by way of Havana under date of December 22, announcing that the revolution in Santo Domingo had been closed by the election of Gen. Gonzalez to the Presidency of the Republic on that island, is thought to be a misinterpretaon of the news which was published in THE TRIBUNE on Friday last. The assertion that the revolutionary government would annul the lease granted to the Samana Bay Company is also a misstatement of facts. A TRIBthe official agent of the Provisional Government of Santo Domingo, to inquire into the truth of the report received by way of Havana. Although very cautious in his answers, Mr. Passailaigue said he had no hesitation in declaring the statement relative to the election of Gen. Gonzaler as President to be entirely incorrect. The primary object of the revolution was that the Dominican people might hold free and untrammeled elections; and therefore for the Provisional Government to attempt the holding of an election with the major portion of the country under the dominton of the revolutionists, and the southern part, or Santo Do mingo district, still acknowledging the authority tof Baez, would be to act in the same manner as Baez had been accused of doing. The published manifesto, after alluding to the frauds upon the people by means of the elections, stated that a Provisional Government or Committee of Public Welfare should be recognized "until the Dominican people," meaning all the citizens of the Republic, "shall by a vote appoint definitely a ruler, and it would therefore be against their own policy to hold an election until the island was restored to perfect order. Having a thorough knowledge of the various lines steamers which touch at Poerto Plata en route for Cuba, Mr. Passailaigue said he could not see how such news could have reached Havana even if true. A Spanish steamer left St. Thomas about Dec. Dec. 16 if the vessel had a passenger on board, but these vessels very often went direct from St. Thomas to Santiago de Cuba. He was therefore under the impression that the report was merely a misrepresentation of the news known in St. Thomas on the 11th and already published, which intelligence, being read to the people of Cuba, had been misunderstood through their want of knowledge of the affairs on the island. The Provisional Government had, doubtless, been mistaken for an election. In answer to a question relative to the statement in the Havana dispatch that the new Govern ment would annul the lease of the Samana Bay Com pany, Mr. Passailaigue replied that he had no hesitation in saying that he had brought on documents from the Provisional Government to the Samana Bay Company. giving the stockholders full guarantees that all th rights and privileges accorded to them by their contract with the Bass Government would be fully re-spected. So far indeed from the new Govern-

ment being hostile to the Company, the leaders are disposed to be very friendly, as they recognize the objects which the Company has in amely, the improvement and development of th island, which cannot be otherwise than beneficial. The people also recognize the value to themselves of the treaty. In the interior are millions of feet of valuable sabinet and dyewoods which now cannot reach a market for want of transportation, as all the lumber has to be ected railroad of the Samana Bay Company would con vey the wood to navigable waters, and thence it would eadily reach purchasers, thereby increasing the value of the lands now almost wild. The woods along the coast line have been exhausted; but it only requires the coast the nave been canadasses; but it may require and development of the Samana Bay Company's Raitroad to reach the rich forests of the hilly review. The people understand this thoroughly and appreciate it. The te-bacco growers also feel interested in the success of the sterprise, for the reason that it will increase the valu of their tobacco from \$1 50 to \$2 per 100 pounds At the present time, the tobacco has to be brought to market on horseback, costing from \$2 to \$2 50 per 1 pounds, whereas by rail it would not cost cone-fourth of that amount, and yet realize a handsome profit to the railroad company. The natives clearly understand the roads are needed, but have not the money and energy to make them; consequently, the place offered by the

pany of the favorable view taken of the treaty, and he had endeavored to do so se far as it has been in his power. From these facts he was certain that the report telegraphed was not correct in any of the instance One of the engineers in the employ of the Samana Bay Company, who had but recently arrived from Samana. xhibited a communication which had been addressed to the Samana Bay Company, and which had been co veyed by a special messenger from the Chief of the Pro isional Government to the Governor of the Company at Samana. The following is a translationjofp clause

Company to carry out this mevement meet with cerdin approval. Besides, the Company pay an annual renta of \$150,000 into the treasury, and this fact alone would

be a great consideration to induce affavorable opinio

of the treaty. The Provisional Government has spe sially instructed Mr. Passallaigue to assure the Com-

the document:

The Provisional Government recently declared in the Cibacodistrict has passived to respect all the contracts made with foreign powers, and among them especially that mentioned in the proceding paragraph, to wit: The Samana Bay of Santo Domingo, and as a proof of it I do so assert in this formal communication, to which so assert in this formal communication, to which A letter was also received from Poorte Plate by the

Tybee, and in it was an extract from an official dispatch sent to the Governor of the Bamana Bay Company at Samana by the leaders of the revolution anterior to the establishment of the Provisional Government, bearing date Nov. 28, 1873, and being signed by Ortea, Gomez, and Batista. The following is a translation of the ex

We hasten to write to you, Sir, to declare that you need feel no, apprehension whatever, since the revolution not only does not ignore your rights, but accepts them, and will fosier and guarantee them, as emanating from a legal and duly authorize I power. You will please communicate this to the members of the company whom you represent.

In answer to a question relative to the native woods and their value, the engineer said that, for the purpose of piles for docks, &c., there | were woods on | the island that would resist the attacks or the naval worm and marine insects better than any with which he was acquainted, and mentioned the tron-wood, acoma, gregri on, and others. The cabinet and dyewoods were, in his opinion, very valuable, and the minerals would, be believed, one day develop a richness hardly conceivable He felt sure the Dominicans would rather favor than oppose the development of the island, and he was able o judge from personal observation.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION. DETAILS OF THE ATTACK BY THE INSURGENT

FORCES ON MANZANILLO. Advices have been received in this city from

uban sources relative to the military movements of the insurrectionary army from Sept. 16 to Nov. 20 as mbraced in the official reports of the Secretary of War and Major-Gen. Carlisto Garcia Iñiguez, commander-in chief of the army. These reports show that on Oct. 18 the army left Holguin with part of the Holguin forces, and on the 24th formed a junction with other troops. Gen. Cespedes was, however, taken sick on Oct. 25, and Gen. Macio took command of his wing of the army, which advanced to Baire, close under the fortifications but met with no opposition. At Cobre the troops en countered a foraging party, and a skirmish commenced before it was discovered that this new force Iwas a portion of the Cuban army. By this mishap a loss of nine men was experienced. A few days later a further junction was made at Agual, until on November 6 the army began to advance on Mazanillo with a force of 1,400 infantry. On November 9 this body of troops encamped at Porial, and was divided into six columns each under an experienced officer, and a plan was laid down for the attack upon and occupation of Manzantilo On November 16 the enemy was encountered at the Savanna Garata, and after a sharp fight the Spaniard retreated, leaving 25 prisoners and five dead on the field together with 30 rifles, a number of horses, and a quantity of ammunition. The direct advance on Manzapitle was then made, and at midnight the outskirts of the city were reached. By the noise and lights in the city is was evident that the Spaniards expected the attack, an were prepared to meet it. A body of Spanish cavalry was sent against the Cuban forces; but, after a sharp fight, was driven back. The city defended by two forts and nine towers, and the steamer Venadito, with two gunboats, were in the harbor, with a force of fighting men on board. During the attack 500 men were landed from these vessels to join in the defense of the city. The Cuban forces advanced boldly, meeting the fire from the towers, which, after an obstinate defense, were at last abandoned, the Spanlards falling back to the plaza. The Cuban troops then entered and occupied part of the town, notwithstanding that they had to fight fresh forces that were disem barked from the vessels. Soon afterward the steamer and gunboats opened fire on the town, but only damaged the buildings. The fighting continued until 4:30 a. m., when the Coban forces retired from the city, having destroyed half the buildings owned by the Spaniards. They took with them on retreating 25 rifles, 8,000 cartridges, a quantity of gold and Spanish bank-notes, cloth, provisions, &c.; beside destroying £1,000,000 worth of property and capturing 100 prisoners, who were paroled. The losses of the Spaniards were estimated at over 200, while the Cuban loss was 13 officers and 60 privates killed and wounded. On Nov. 20 the Cuban army went into camp at Zanja, having made forther captures of 150,000 cartridges, 75 rifles, a number of horses, &c., beside sending back to the Spanish camp 40 prisoners who had been deprived of their arms.

In confirmation of these reports the Cuban agents in this city state that orders have been received that no more rifles are needed by the Cuban forces, as they have captured more than sufficient to arm all the forces they can put at present into the field. It was reported yesterday at the Cuban headquarters that the Virginius prisoners were expected to arrive in this city on Friday next, and that the Cuban residents were making every effort to supply their wants immediately on their arrival in this port. Cuban forces retired from the city, having destroyed

FOREIGN NOTES. The Pope will deliver another Allocation in

Consistory on the 26th of December. The bark Walo, reported to be bound for an American port, is ashore near Londonderry.

Gens. Moriones and Loma have reëntered

the Province of Biscay, Spain, with 15,000 men. There is strong opposition in France to the roposed grant of money to the ex-Empress Eugenie.

The scarlet fever in an unusually malignant form prevails in parts of England. There have been 44 deaths from the disease in Liverpool within a week. The report of Bazaine's flight is unfounded.

It was stated that the ex-Marshal was to leave Paris The Hon. S. L. Huntington was entertained at a banquet at Montreal, last night, by his political friends. A large number of prominent politicians were

THE GRANGE MOVEMENT.

DEGANIZING A STATE GRANGE IN NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 23 .- Following mickly in the steps of the sister States, New-Hampshi will to-morrow have a State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Seventeen subordinate Granges have been formed, andfto-day T. A. Thompson, Lecturer the National Grange, arrived in this city to organize the State Grange. Mr. Thompson came from Burilagton, Vt., where he organized a Grange under very auspicious circumstances, the membership embracing over \$1,000,00 f capital. To-day Mr. Thompson acted as the presiding installing officer, members from all the subordinat Granges being present. He presented a few general thoughts on the object for which they had been called together, and directed attention to the fact that the or ganization of a State Grange within a jurisdiction was n important event, insemuch as it severed the relation of subordinate Granges directly with the Sational Grange, and this intermediate organization assumed the supervision of the subordinates. He ex-plained that to organize a subordinate Grange it was cessary that there be nine members and four women, and that there must be 15 of these latter Granges in th State before a State Grange can be organized. Commit ces on Credentials, Constitution, By-Laws, and Resolu tions were then appointed, with orders to report to-mor remainder of the afternoon was spent infor mally with a view to the members getting better ac quainted with each other. In the evening a meeting was held for the exemplification of the work and the conferring of the fifth degree on the Masters and their

wives from the subordinate Granges. PROSPEROUS CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 .- The Executive Comnittlee of the National Grange held a meeting in thi city last week, and transacted considerable business very little of which was of a public character. The bank alsnee of the National Grange was between \$40,000 and \$50,000, and it was voted by the Committee to make a it investment of \$10,000 of it in United States registered bonds. At the last anunal meeting of the National Grance the organization was in debt, but during the present year there has been paid into its treasury about \$100,000, of which about \$50,000 has been expended in supporting the office here in Washington in distributing documents, and in furnishing subordinat in distributing documents, and in furnishing according to Granges with books and implements for ordinary work. The Grange has never been so prosperous as at present. While it continues to increase in the Western States where it first took root, it is at the same time rapidly apreading in the Eastern and Southern States. More applications for charters for subordinate Granges were received at the office of the National Grange has Sainter of the subordinary of them came from the East and South.

A WESTERN TRAGEDY. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23. - Advices from Tueson, Arizona, state that a terrible tracedy occurred Dec. 10 at Lincoln, New-Mexico. Constable Martin with a pose of men attempted to arrest David Warner,
Mr. Herald, and J. L. Glynn, when Warner killed
Martin. The Sherif's posee then killed Warner, and the
other two named wore size found dead, riddled with
ballets.

WASHINGTON.

THE REDUCTION OF EXPENSES.

MANY WAYS IN WHICH MONEY MAY BE SAVED-THE EXPENSES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE DOUBLED DURING THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION-THE EXPENSES OF THE CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC SERVICE TO BE REDUCED LARGELY-THE DE-PARTMENT CLERKS NOT OVERBURDENED WITH

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 .- Investigations into the expenditures of the Executive departments, continued from day to day, disclose many ways in which money may be easily saved. Beginning with the Executive proper, it has been discovered that not only the salary of the President, but all the expenses of the Executive office, have been doubled during the present Administration. In 1866 the appropriations made in the regular Legislative, Executive, and Judicial bill for the Executive office during the year 1867-the last of Johnson's Administration-were as follows: Compensation of the President, \$25,000; salaries of private secretary, assistant secretary, clerks, steward, and messenger, \$6,100; contingent expenses, \$4,000; total, \$35,100. This year the estimates for the same are: Compen sation of the President, \$50,000; salaries of private secretaries, clerks, steward, and messenger, \$15,300;

contingent expenses, \$6,000; total, \$71,300. The duties of the President are to-day no greater than they were in 1867, and the amount of business to be transacted in his office requiring the services of secretaries, clerks, &c., has not increased. Besides, the decline in the prices of almost every article that enters into the contingent expenses of the executive office makes it necessary to make a smaller appropriation now than then. It must not be supposed that the figures given above cover all, or even a large share of the expenses of the executive office. They are simply corresponding items for the two years. Mr. Dawes a few days ago, in a speech, placed the perquisites and allowances of the President at \$50,000 a year, and he did not include in this estimate, probably, the necessary expenses of the office such as have been referred to above.

Mr. Orth of the House Foreign Committee is spending the recess of Congress in Washington, exmining the expenditures in the consular and diplomatic service. He is assisted in this work by the State Department, and though it is far from complete, the investigation thus far made shows that much more than \$100,000 a year can be saved. Mr. William Williams, Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, gives it as his opinion, that \$160,000 a year can be saved there

by a more economical organization of the work. Thus it will be seen that, despite the assertion that it is impossible to cut down expenses in Washington, it can be done, and prominent and influential members of Congress say that it will have to be done. One representative remarked to-day that if the members of the Cabinet supposed that they could cut down the amount of work in the several districts where the constituents of members were directly interested, and reduce appropriations for buildings, etc., without making considerable reduction of the force the departments here, they were much mistaken. "Let the heads of departments," he said, "get a little more work out of their subordinates. They are now in their offices but six hours a day, and half an hour is deducted from that for lunch. They each have 30 days' leave of absence, with pay, in the Summer; 10 days more at every State election; at least a day and a half for each holiday, and several days for some. Take the present holiday week, for instance. Clerks do not work on Christmas or New-Year's, and only three hours a day during the of the week. I have counted up the number of holidays with pay, which the clerks of one of the departments had last year. It was 57, or more than one for each week in the year. In other words, they were on duty but 1,536 hours in the year, or 1534 days of 10 hours each; less than half the time given to their employers by other clerks, no less competent and no better paid. If there must be economy, let the clerks in the departments be made to work an hour later each day, and then, if they gave their whole attention to their work when they were in the office, the number who could be discharged would be very great."

THE WAR DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] Gen. Belknap, Secretary of War, is disposed to cut the estimates of the War Department down to the lowest possible limit. Those for the military service proper which were submitted to him, received his personal attention, and were calculated as closely as possible; but he proposes to readjust them and reduce them as far as the actual requirements of the service will permit. The estimates of appropriations for fortifications nent of forte and for rivers and harbors, amounting in the aggregate to about \$20,000,000, and which were imply submitted by him to Congress without a recommendation, but, merely for their action, can be very materially reduced. So far as those items are concerned Congress can decide as to the locations where appropriations are needed. It appears that almost all the Departments of the Government are burdened with addi tional clerical work by the operation of the act requiring separate accounts to be rendered under each head of ppropriation and for each fiscal year, as well as by the numerous calls from Congress for reports. A reform in this matter would enable a reduction of the cierical

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. PECIAL ALLOWANCES IN THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL

REVENUE. WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1873. It has been a source of great complaint among the of heers of the Government that owing to the practice of giving special allowances, fees, &c., in the Bureau of Internal Revenue, nominally in the hands of the Secre

tary of the Treasury, but really subject to the wishe of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, there has hardly been an officer in the Bureau who had by law a fixed rate of pay. The Commissioner was the officer who, in effect, fixed a majority of the salaries, and it has long been the complaint that this was too much power to be held by subordinate in a department. It is understood that an effort will be made in Congress to abolish all specia allowances, so that it may be ascertained what am of pay each officer in a bureau is entitled to. It the mean time, the Secretary of the Treasur; the mean time, the Secretary of the Treasury has taken the matter entirely out of the hands of the Commissioner, and has issued an order directing that hereafter all applications for special allowances to Collectors of Internal Revenue must be directed to the Secretary of the Treasury. It is also directed that the amount of allowance granted for the present fiscal year should be stated, and also the amount allowed for personal compensation, rent, fuel, and lights, the name of each deputy and clerk, where and how they are employed, and what salary they receive respectively.

THE POLARIS INVESTIGATION TO BE RESUMED TO-DAY The war cloud having passed over, the Secretary of the Navy finds that he has sufficient time on his hands to complete the investigation in the Polaris misfortune He will therefore resume his investigation to morrow and will examine Prof. Bryan, the astron and his two companions, who became separated from Capt. Buddington's party after they were rescued. The three are now in Washing ton, and their testimony will soon be taken The evidence of the whole crew of the Polaris, including both the Tyson and the Buddington parties, together with a revised report of the Secretary of the Navy, in which the whole of the testimony will be reviewed, will be prepared and sent to Congress. The Secretary will also order the preparation of an enlarged and revised map of the Polar regions traversed by the Polaris or any of her crew.

PROPOSITION TO EXAMINE CLERKS APPOINTED BE FORE THE CIVIL-SERVICE RULES WERE ADOPTED.

A report is in circulation to-night which, if true, wil cause great commotion among the employes of the epartments here. It is said that at a meeting of the Civil-Service Commission, to be held some time in lanuary, a proposition will be discussed to cause the n of all those now holding clerkships or other no in the departments, and who were appointed

before the Civil Service rules were adopted. It is asserted that while new appointees are required to give proof of their ability, there are hundreds now in the departments appointed on political grounds, who are totally unfit for the positions they hold. If such an examination is contemplated, it should be different in character to that which candidates for appointment are now submitted, since there numerous cases where clerks who could not answer any set questions that might be put to them, have, by long experience, become very efficient and expert in their especial duties. It would be manifestly improper to turn out such as these to give place to inexperienced men, no matter what their literary attainments.

REPRESENTATIVE STEPHENS'S VIEWS ON THE CIVIL RIGHTS QUESTION.

A colored delegation, consisting of Geo. F. Downing, Frederick Donglass, N. W. Councy, F. G. Barbadoes, B. A. Stryker, and Wm. J. Wilson, had an interview to-day, by appointment, with Representative A. H. Stephens of Georgia, who received the delegation in the most friendly manner. The delegation report that in the course of conversation Mr. Stephens freely admitted that colored men as citizens were entitled to full protection in their civil rights, without any invidious pro-scription, but that it was the duty of the respective States, and not that of the Federal Government, to act in order to secure them. He stated that he was prepar-ing a speech, to be delivered in the House of Represent-atives, on the Civil Rights bill, and in this his views were fully expressed.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1878. The Interior Department is in receipt of a telegram from J. B. Brown, Secretary of Wyoming Territory, stating that a number of the Sioux Indians are off their reservation, killing stock and committing other depre-dations in that Territory. The nearest inilitary post is Fort Laramie. Orders have been given to check them. These Sioux Indians are allowed by the treaty of 1868 to go off their reservation at certain seasons to hunt game. The Indian Bureau received a dispatch from Omaha this morning, saying that the Omahas, in council, have

agreed to sell a portion of their reservation to the Wis-bebagoes, in Nebraska, and nine Omaha chiefs will visit Washington to corelude the sale. The land purchased is to be occupied by the Winnebagoes, who are new being removed by United States soldiers in Wisconsin to the Nebraska reservation. The Postmaster-General to-day issued an order that

hereafter appointments of Special Agents of the Post-Office Department shall be made subject to examination by a Board of Examiners to be duly appointed, and whose duty it shall be to examine special agents and report in writing particularly as to the qualifications of candidates. Persons found not qualified will be dismissed from the service.

To-morrow will be practically a holiday in the Executive Departments, as they will close at noon, and the morning work will be devoted to the opening of letters and answering by telegraph any that may be of extra-ordinary importance. All the departments will be closed at noon during the holiday week, and the only business performed will be of the routine character above mentioned.

Senators Edmunds and Thurman are engaged in preparing a bankrupt ball, to be presented to the Senate mmediately after the recess. A canvass of a large part of the Senate leads those who have made it to conclude that the House bill repealing the present act will not pass, but that a monification, expunging the objections-ble portions of the involuntary clause will be acreed to. The Washington Stock Exchange opened to-day at noon. The hour of session was occupied in the drawing

for seats, and making rules for the government of the Board, preparatory to active business to morrow. John Hitz is President of the Board, and D. W. Middletor, jr., is Chairman of the Exchange. Representatives Wilson and Eldridse, of the Judiciary Committee, will leave here not later than Saturday for New-Orleans. It is their intention, while avoiding State politics and complications, to investigate all the acts of the Federal Court, which, it is charged, taint Judge Dureit's official conduct.

The President and the relatives who accompanied him to St. Louis to attend the funeral of Mr. Dent, returned here to-day. No Cabinet meeting was held, and none will take place until Friday. Most of the Scor-taries and several Congressmen called on the President during

The President said to an ex-Senator, to-day, that he was by no means indifferent to the face of Judge Williams, nominee for the Chief Justiceship, and that he had not, from the first, doubted that he would be confirmed. He said that he should on no account withdraw

The first conversion of the loan of 1858 into the new # per cent loan, under the act approved a week age, was made in the office of the Treasurer of the United States to-day. The amount converted was \$500,000.

UNPAID WASHINGTON ASSESSMENTS.

SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF CER-TIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS-THE MAJORITY OF THEM OVERDUE-THE REPORT THAT NOTICES TO

The Board of Public Works of Washington City, of which Gov. Alex. R. Shepherd is now President, have issued since November, 1872, certificates of indebtedness against property in that city on account of un-paid assessments amounting to \$660,000. The following s the form of such certificate;

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. Be it known that the Board of Public Works of the Be it known that the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia, having assessed upon Lot No. —, square No. —, in the City of Washington, the sum of s—for its proportionate amount of cost of improvements up — avenue, street —, issue this certificate of indebtness against said property for said sum, with interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from the date hereof, mutil paid. Said assessment and this certificate is issued in accordance with an act of Congress of the United States, entitled "An act to provide a government for the District of Columbia," approved Feb. 21, 1811, and an act of the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia, entitled "An act prescribing the mode of assessments for special improvements and providing for the collection thereof," approved Aug. 10, 1871, and also, as act of said Legislative Assembly, entitled "An act mendatory of an act entitled an act prescribing the mode of assessments and providing for the collection thereof, approved Aug. 10, 1871, approved Aug. 23, 1871. Given under our hand, in the City of Washington D. C., this let day of November, 1872.

H. D. COOKE.
ALEX. R. SHEPHERD.
JAS, H. MAGRUDER.

The great bulk of the certificates have been issued by the Board as above composed; but since then Gev Cooke has retired from the Presidency, by reason of his resignation as Governor of the District, and Mr. Shepherd has been promoted to it by his appointment as Governor, the charter of the Board of Public Works roviding that the Governor shall be ex officio President f the Board of Public Works and of the Sinking Fund commission. These assessments have been chiefly for paving and curbing of new streets and avenues, and are levied on the property situated in the portion of the city undergoing special improvement. It is stated that these certificates are mainly overdue, and that it has become necessary for the holders of them to send notices to owners to pay up before their houses and lote are ad-

vertised for sale. S. C. Thompson, President of the First National Bank of this city, on being requested to explain the matter, said that no such notices were being forwarded. The certificates bore 10 per cent interest, and were a first mortgage on the property, and holders were usually willing to retain them instead of insisting on their payment. The First National Bank had held in all about \$500,000 worth of them, of which amount at least \$300,000 had been paid by the owners, some of them before they were due. The payments made now average from \$1.500 to \$2,500 daily, either due or anticipated. Considerable amounts are also held by W. W. Corcoran of Washington, and the Freedman's Savings Banks, being bought by them as by the First National Bank for an investent. There was no money advanced upon them in the way of a loan. They were simply city certificates bearing interest, such as the Park bonds in New The Freedman's Savings Bank had occasion during the panic to sell some of them for ready money, and they were very eagerly taken. Mr. Thompson bad himself secured a long line of them on his own account. Nobody had been advertised as yet, but the bank deemed it due to owners that they should be notified when the certificates come due, and in these cases they had generally been settled at once.
Gov. Shepherd of the District of Columbia was in the city vesterday. He said that the January interest on the funded debt of the District would be ready for payment on the 1st day of the month.

THE EASTERN RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

BIDDEFORD, Dec. 23 .- The Coroner's inquest in the case of the Eastern Railroad disasten was resumed this morning. The evidence so far given seems to attach the chief biame of the disaster to the dead corductor. The testimony is conflicting, the up train hands averring that there were red signals out, and the down train men testifying to the contrary. The atterney for the Government moved to exclude reporters this morning, and it is probable that hereafter the security will be secret.